

## The Evening World

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## DRINKING-WATER IN THE STREETS.

THE STRANGER who complained of the difficulty of getting a glass of cold water in this city outside of a restaurant hit on a weak spot in our code of every-day convenience. Advanced notions of what is sanitary have made people fearful of public drinking places. The same notions have almost banished drinking-water from railway cars where it is sorely needed. Even individual drinking cups have not solved the problem. Though it has been proved that most typhoid is brought into the city from the country, many people distrust the water offered in public places in town.

Why shouldn't there be some systematic way of providing filtered drinking water in the streets—water that everybody could drink with safety and confidence? European cities maintain two sets of street taps or fountains, one labelled plainly "drinkable water," the other "non-drinkable"; so that no one need feel he is taking risks. New York ought to provide far more chances for people to get a drink of good water without buying it over a counter.

Norman Haggood announces that "confusion has passed its climax." Confusion hasn't corroborated the news.

## THE STRAIGHT ROAD.

MR. MITCHELL'S downright refusal to let his name remain on the Independence League ticket unless the names of Mr. McAneny and Mr. Prendergast appear there too is wholly to his credit. The statement of the Fusion candidate is firm, dignified and final. He shows himself to be a man ready to stand or fall with the associates he has accepted. In resolutely resisting all efforts to beguile him upon false trails by appealing to his well known views on the subway question, in insisting that the one issue "is, and must remain, the defeat of Murphy and Tammany Hall," Mr. Mitchell proves himself a true, single-minded Fusionist leader whose hopes and whose sacrifices alike must entitle him to respect.

Thaw recedes Jerome.

When sorrows come they come not single spies but in battalions.

## MISUSING THE FLAG.

IN RESTORING to his place in a regiment of Canadian fusiliers a bugler who had been dismissed for snatching a small American flag from the hands of a girl who waved it in his face on parade, the Minister of Militia takes the ground that "the flag should not have been flaunted in the face of a soldier, and that when put to such uses it loses its distinction as a national emblem."

True lovers of the American flag can never feel anything but pain when they see the emblem used either for silly and thoughtless insult or for the deliberate exploitation of cheap excitement. Already far too many theatrical managers in this country have definitely adopted the flag as a recognized stage "effect" to be dragged in to bolster up a poor "show" or get a burst of applause when all else fails. Promiscuous use of the flag on the stage and elsewhere is becoming a serious menace to its dignity as a national emblem. Waving the flag over the footlights neither enhances its distinction nor stirs any feelings save sorrow and regret in the hearts of those who love it best.

The Clerk of the Domestic Relations Court is being sued by his wife for a divorce. Shoemakers were ever the worst shod.

## GREAT PLACE FOR CUT-UPS.

PERHAPS they do these things even better in Europe, but anyway Mr. Waldo, who has just returned from there, will admit that flim-flamming the Police Commissioner out of \$140 right in Police Headquarters isn't so bad for New York. The money—peeled from the Commissioner's private roll and marked—was to be used in trapping a Police Pension Bureau clerk charged with offering, for a consideration, to get a retired policeman's pension raised. Two sleuths in charge of the trap "detected" for all they were worth, not a soul concerned left the building, yet all except \$10 of the \$150 vanished into thin air, and the ten was found on the decoy and not on the suspected man!

Not long ago a sprightly youth, afterward convicted of one of the biggest jewel robberies in years, was being questioned by a Deputy Commissioner—also at Headquarters. Finding the questions a bore, the young man jumped out of the window and refused to have anything to do with the police for several days.

In the whole town the safest place for cut-ups is Police Headquarters.

The Colonel is home again with "nothing to say." Be patient.

## Letters From the People

A Joke 250 Years Old.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
I was interested to read in a recent issue of your paper an anecdote called "The Lawyer's Choice," as it shows how a good story survives many generations. In a book published in London in 1699, called the "Tales and Jest of Mr. Hugh Peters" (who was executed as a regicide that year), we read the following "Jest": "Mr. Peters, riding on the way with a justice of the peace, to drive tediousness out of time, the justice said to him: 'Suppose, sir, that all the world were dead but you and I, and that one of us should be turned into a horse and the other into an ass, which of the two would you choose to be?' Mr. Peters answered: 'I shall give your worship the choice.' 'Why, then,' quoth the justice, 'I would be a horse.' 'Nay,' said Mr. Peters, 'for I entreat your worship to be an ass, for I would choose that above anything.' 'Why,' asked the justice, 'Marry,' quoth Hugh, 'because I have known many asses to become judges.'"  
JOSEPH KILGORE.

## Jerome

By Robert Minor



## The Jarr Family

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## Mr. Jarr Wallows Joyously In an Ocean of "Efficiency"

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